

From: Smith, Wayne
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/17/01 12:16pm
Subject: Proposed Remedy

To Whom It Should Concern:

The schools of America do NOT need a bunch of out-dated PC machines running Microsoft software -- as proposed. Software -- free to schools, and also nearly free to Microsoft.

There are countless numbers of software producers who work hard to sell their wares to the education market. Government-sponsored "give-away" programs as proposed in the Microsoft remedy simply shuts out all other competition...and you call that punishing a monopolist company for past transgressions?

A fair solution would be to have Microsoft PAY cold, hard, CASH to the schools to use on needs educators identify. The cash amount should be significant and on-going for a period of at least 12 years, so that each of the 12 grades could benefit over time by the purchase of NEW technology OR reduction in class size, or other enhancements that educators know will make a real impact in learning improvement.

My government should not be assisting a law-breaking monopolist in finding new ways to shut out its competitors in the education market.

Show me you understand what is at stake in this case by rejecting this "free software-hardware" bait.

Microsoft did not get to be so big by being the best or by being dumb. They got caught violating laws designed to protect us. Punish them, do not reward them!

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